

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO
Electronically filed

Class Action Complaint alleges Defendant Ohio officials violate Plaintiffs' statutory rights by failing to pay federal Foster Care Maintenance Payments, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §672, to approved Plaintiff Relative Foster Parents on behalf of eligible Plaintiff Relative Foster Children, and similarly situated Classes of Ohio Relative Foster Parents and Relative Foster Children. Plaintiffs seek solely declaratory and prospective injunctive relief.

3. Plaintiffs' claims against the Defendants involve intimate details including but not limited to their medical history, mental and psychological health, and involvement in the foster care system, and financial means.

4. In order to maintain the privacy of these intimate details, Plaintiffs seek leave of this Court to seal certain supporting declarations and documents they intend to file. Good cause exists to seal these papers because Plaintiffs' substantial privacy interests in the intimate details of their life outweigh any public interest served by opening these papers to the public.

5. Due to the Plaintiff Relative Foster Children's young age, the highly sensitive and private nature of the facts involved, the risk of retaliation they and their family potentially face, and the potential psychological harm they and their family would endure if these facts were made public, the Plaintiffs have strong privacy interests that must be protected by this Court. Moreover, Plaintiffs' privacy interests cannot be vindicated solely by permission to proceed pseudonymously, because even if they use pseudonyms, members of their community and potentially other members of the public could potentially identify them.

6. Any public interest served by allowing the public to learn these intimate personal details is far outweighed by the Plaintiffs' significant privacy interest, and the general public currently has no access to the documents and information Plaintiffs' seek to file under seal.

7. Sealing the record will not prejudice any of the parties in this case, because they are already aware of the Plaintiffs' identities and will have access to the information contained in Plaintiffs' sealed filings.

For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiffs respectfully urges this Court to GRANT this motion to seal their forthcoming declarations and supporting documents to Plaintiffs' Motion for Class Certification.

Respectfully submitted,

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***Pro hac vice application pending*

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on December 3, 2020, I electronically transmitted the attached document to the Clerk's Office using the CM/ECF System for filing and also served a copy of the attached on Defendants at the addresses listed below:

MIKE DeWINE,
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77 South High Street, 30th Floor,
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Also served on:

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Also served on:

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